Secrt. II-27—100,000—22-3-48.

M & P. H. (1948) Department.

MS. SERIES.

G.O. No. 1841 P.H.

Dated 5TH APRIL 1949.

[Despatch Abstract.]

MADRAS ENGINEERING SERVICE - Municipal Engineers - Merger in Papers recorded.

Finance(E.1) Deptt.

The case relates to the question of Provincialising the Madras Municipal Engineering Service and keeping it a separate category in the P.W.D. pending the regular formation of the Public Health Engineering Service.

The proposals for provincialisation of Municipal Engineers originated from a conference held in the room of H.M.(Fin) on 4-6-47, for the purpose of re-organising the Sanitary Engineering Branch. Subsequent to this conference, the water supply and drainage Committee recommended that Municipal Engineers and Municipal Engineering Subordinate staff should be provincialised and absorbed in the Public Health Engineering Department to be newly formed so that they could all be utilised to the best advantage in the execution and maintenance of Water Supply and Drainage Schemes. The Joint Secretary E & P.H. has pointed out that 'the Municipal Engineering Service will have to be provincialised sometime - either immediately or after the formation of a separate Public Health Engineering Department, that the Municipal Engineering Service cannot exist as a separate branch and that it must be amalgamated with the P.H.Engineering Department. He has, however, no objection to proceed with the provincialisation of Municipal Engineering service before the question of P.H. Engineering and P.H. Engineering Course is settled, but he strongly expresses the view that the provincialised branch should be a part of the Sanitary Engineering Section of the P.W.D. because these two are going to form the nucleus of the future P.H.Engineering Department and that they may as well be grouped. He is therefore of the opinion that the provincialisation of the Municipal Engineering Service may be deferred till the question of the P.H. Engineering Course is finally settled.

2. The Municipal Engineers are non-gazetted non-government servants. Their pay and allowances are met by the municipal councils concerned. To provincialise the services and to give them the status, pay and allowances similar to Government servants would amount only to bettering their prospects. On the other hand observed by L.A.Secretary Municipal Councils are not likely to look with favour on this change and they do not like to have staff which do not work under their control. The question whether there should be provincial Government service or Municipal Engineers was thought of even at the inception of the Madras Municipal Engineering Service in 1936. It was then considered that there was no need for the Government to undertake any financial liability on account of these officers and that a regular non-government service would be sufficient. In view of the large financial commitments, the present policy of Prohibition, the paucity of technical hands (which will continue for some more years to come) and the need for tightening up anti-inflationery measures it does not seem opportune to take up the question of provincialising the Madras Municipal Engineering Service and it may be deferred.

If L.A. Deptt. press their proposal they may be requested to furnish detailed financial implications involved on account of provincialising the Madras Municipal Engineering Service.

This proposal may at least be deferred until the question of whether a separate P.H. Engineering Services should be set up is decided.

Intd. x x
30/11

The proposal for the constitution of a separate Public Health Engineering Department was considered at the last meeting of the Cabinet on 12-2-1949 and it was decided that a definite scheme which would not involve ~~xxxx~~ Government in extra expenditure should be drawn up and placed before the Cabinet. This may lie over till 1-5-49 or till a final decision is reached on the question if earlier.

Intd. x x
2/3/49.

Apart from the proposal for the constitution of a separate P.H.Engineering Deptt. there is a proposal for the reorganisation of the Sanitary Engineering Deptt. as a separate unit under the control of the Chief Engineer (General). It has since been decided that the latter proposal should be pushed through and that the proposal for a separate P.H. Engineering Deptt. should await the result of the working of the reorganised unit. The proposal for the separate P.H. Engineering Deptt. is not therefore likely to materialise at A present. These papers relating to the question of provincialisation of Municipal Engineering Service may be recorded.

L. A. and Finance may be requested to offer their remarks.

Intd. x x
16/3/49.

E & P.H. U.O.
No.97973/48-1-H.1 P.H.
dated 17-3-1949

L.A./Fin.

L.A.Deptt. (F).

(Previous notes of this Deptt. on pp.26-34, 37-38, 43-44 and 46 ante).

The notes of E & P.H. from p.46 ante may be perused.

This Deptt. may agree to the proposal at A above.

Intd. x x
28/3/49.

Finance (E.III)

(Pre Finance note on pp.41-43 above).

The further note of E & P.H. and L.A.Deptt. from the bottom of p.46 above may be perused. This Deptt. may also agree to the proposal of E & P.H. at A on p.47 above.

Intd. x x
1/4/49

Fin. U.O.21255/E.III
1-4-49.

E & P.H.

P.T.O.

E & P.H.(Hl).

The papers may now be

Order Ms.1241 P.H., dated 5th April 1949

R E C O R D E D.

Intd. x x

ABSTRACT. MADRAS ENGINEERING SERVICE - Municipal Engineers - Merger-in-Papers recorded.

Superintendent,
Madras Record Office

KRVD.27.8.

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